

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An injection unit which, with a drive unit as well as a drive block disposed in the rear section, is moveable on runners ~~(6)~~ of the machine frame ~~(7)~~ of an injection molding machine and comprises a drive unit ~~(10, 23)~~ for axially displacing and pressing the plasticizing cylinder ~~(2)~~ to the injection mold, characterized in that the injection unit ~~(1)~~ is supported in an articulated manner by a support ~~(5)~~ which is moveable on runners of the frame ~~(7)~~ of the injection molding machine and comprises an individual drive ~~(10, 23)~~ for pressing the plasticizing cylinder ~~(2)~~, with slight pivotability of the nozzle tip, to the injection mold ~~(14)~~ while achieving a centric sealing connection, and the rear section of the drive block is adjustably supported.
2. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to Claim 1, characterized in that the support ~~(5)~~ is formed as a running gear ~~(40)~~ with an undercarriage ~~(22)~~ preferably comprising four guide shoes ~~(8, 8')~~.
3. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the support ~~(5)~~ has two lateral support cheeks ~~(44, 45)~~, which provide the plasticizing cylinder ~~(2)~~ with articulated support via rotary pins ~~(9)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 3, characterized in that the support (5) features a downward-facing fish joint (12) with a joint (11) for a drive axis (13).
5. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 4, characterized in that the active axis of the fish joint connection (12) is disposed at the center of the machine (M-M) and in parallel to the axis of the plasticizing cylinder (2).
6. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to Claim 5, characterized in that the active axis is preferably disposed at approximately the frame level, especially below the level of the runners (6).
7. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 6, characterized in that the individual drive has an electric motor (10), ~~especially a servo-~~ ~~motor,~~ as well as a spindle overdrive (23).
8. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 7, characterized in that the support (5) in the region between the upper rotary pins (9) and the lower joint (11) and the running gear (40) is rigidly formed, with deformation under stress being ~~close to~~ substantially zero.
9. (Currently Amended) The An injection unit which, with a drive unit as well as a drive block disposed in the rear section, is moveable on runners of the machine frame

of an injection molding machine and comprises a drive unit for axially displacing and pressing the plasticizing cylinder to the injection mold, characterized in that the injection unit is supported in an articulated manner by a support which is moveable on runners of the frame of the injection molding machine and comprises an individual drive for pressing the plasticizing cylinder, with slight pivotability of the nozzle tip, to the injection mold while achieving a centric sealing connection, and the rear section of the drive block is adjustably supported, further ~~according to one of Claims 1 to 8,~~ characterized in that the guide shoes (8, 8') are designed as spherical rotary spindles, the horizontal spacing with respect to the tension-stressed guide shoes (8, 8') being- greater than the corresponding spacing of the pressure-stressed guide shoes (8, 8'), to offset the K factor with regard to tension and pressure balancing.

10. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 9, characterized in that the injection unit (1) includes a drive unit (4) for the rotational and axial movement of the plasticizing worm (3), said drive unit being supported by the support (5) as well as an additional guide shoe unit (15) on the frame, wherein the plasticizing cylinder (2) is firmly connected to the drive unit (4).

11. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 10, characterized in that the additional guide shoe unit (15) has a lower drive bridge, on which the drive unit (4) is supported, said support being provided by a central support (25).

12. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to Claim 11, characterized in that the additional guide shoe unit (45) has an adjustment device for both vertical and horizontal adjustment.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An injection unit which, with a drive unit as well as a drive block disposed in the rear section, is moveable on runners of the machine frame of an injection molding machine and comprises a drive unit for axially displacing and pressing the plasticizing cylinder to the injection mold, characterized in that the injection unit is supported in an articulated manner by a support which is moveable on runners of the frame of the injection molding machine and comprises an individual drive for pressing the plasticizing cylinder, with slight pivotability of the nozzle tip, to the injection mold while achieving a centric sealing connection, and the rear section of the drive block is adjustably supported, further according to one of Claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the support (5) and running gear (40) are disposed in the front section and the other guide shoe unit (45) in the rear section of the injection unit (4), the running gear (40) having four guide shoes and the guide shoe unit (8, 8') having two guide shoes.

14. (Currently Amended) The injection unit according to ~~one of Claims~~ claim 1 to 13, characterized in that the rotary pins (9) are at least approximately disposed in a shared horizontal plane with the axis of the plasticizing cylinder (2), in such a manner that during adjustment of the plasticizing cylinder tip (16) a pivoting movement can be completed in both a horizontal and a vertical plane.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) The injection unit according to Claim 1, characterized in that the individual drive has a servo motor, as well as a spindle overdrive.